Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system, comprising:

a control information obtaining part for obtaining control information from the plurality of electronic devices, the control information allowing the plurality of electronic devices to be controlled;

a time setting function determining part for determining whether the plurality of electronic devices have a time setting function corresponding to the control information obtained by the control information obtaining part;

a time information obtaining part for obtaining time information; and

a time information setting part for setting each of the electronic devices determined as devices having the time setting function by the time setting function determining part to the time information obtained by the time information obtaining part.

Claim 2 (original): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network system is composed of an IEEE 1394 serial bus.

Claim 3 (original): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control information obtaining part obtains the control information when a topology of the network changes.

Claim 4 (original): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control information obtained by the control information obtaining part is composed of a control program for controlling the electronic devices and device attribute information of the electronic devices.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a time setting permission determining part for determining whether the electronic devices permit an external setting operation of the time information;

wherein the time information setting part sets the electronic devices whose external setting operation has been permitted by the time setting permission determining part to the time information.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a time setting displaying part for displaying the electronic devices for which said time information setting part is capable of setting the time information.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

a time setting selecting part for selecting an electronic device from the electronic devices displayed as devices that are capable of setting the time information by the time setting displaying part.

Claim 8 (original): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the time information obtaining part obtains the time information from the outside of the network system.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a time compensating function determining part for determining whether the electronic devices have a time compensating function corresponding to time information obtained from the outside, the time compensating function allowing the electronic devices to compensate time thereof;

wherein the time information setting part sets the electronic devices determined as devices that do not have the time compensating function by the time compensating function determining part to the time information obtained by the time information obtaining part.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the time information obtaining part obtains the time information from at least one of the electronic devices determined as devices that have the time compensating function by the time compensating function determining part.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A controlling method for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system, the method comprising the steps of

(a) obtaining control information from the electronic devices, the control information allowing the electronic devices to be controlled;

(b) determining whether the electronic devices have a time setting function corresponding to the control information obtained at step (a);

(c) obtaining time information; and

(d) setting each of the electronic devices determined as devices having the time setting function at step (b) to the time information obtained at step (c).

Claim 12 (previously presented): A record medium for storing a program that executes the steps of:

(a) obtaining control information from electronic devices, the control information allowing the electronic devices to be controlled;

(b) determining whether the electronic devices have a time setting function corresponding to the control information obtained at step (a);

(c) obtaining time information; and

(d) setting at least one of the electronic devices determined as devices having the time setting function at step (b) to the time information obtained at step (c).

Claim 13 (new): A controlling apparatus for exchanging an information signal among a plurality of electronic devices through a network system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the time information obtaining part includes a clock accuracy determining part configured to determine an accuracy value of one or more clocks present in the network system, wherein the time information obtaining part obtains the time information from a highest time accuracy clock, wherein the highest time accuracy clock has the best accuracy value of the accuracy values determined by the clock accuracy determining part.